

CLAIMS

1. A rail clip for attaching a rail to a post, the rail clip comprising:
- a bracket adapted to be mounted on the post;
- a rail connector;
- 5 a connector mechanism for securing the rail connector and bracket together, the connector mechanism comprising:
- a first mechanism that allows the rail connector and bracket to be arcuately adjusted relative to each other but does not allow axial or lateral withdrawal of the rail connector from the bracket;
 - 10 and
 - a second mechanism that locks the rail connector and bracket together so that substantially no additional relative movement can occur between the rail connector and the bracket; and
- a rail receiving receptacle formed on the rail connector, the rail receiving receptacle receiving an end of the rail therein; whereby adjustment
- 15 of the rail connector relative to the bracket varies the angle of the rail receiving receptacle relative to the bracket.
2. A rail clip as defined in claim 1, in which the rail connector slidably
- 20 engages the bracket and the position of the rail connector is adjusted by sliding the rail connector relative to the bracket.

3. A rail clip as defined in claim 2, wherein the first mechanism comprises:
- a first groove formed in one of the rail connector and the bracket: and
- 5 a boss formed in the other of the rail connector and the bracket;
- whereby the boss and groove interlock with each other and allow sliding arcuate movement between the rail connector and bracket, while substantially preventing the axial or lateral separation of the rail connector from the bracket.

- 10 4. A rail clip as defined in claim 3, in which the second mechanism comprises at least one fastener that fixably connects the bracket and rail connector together.

- 15 5. A rail clip as defined in claim 1, in which the rail connector includes a rear wall and the rail receiving receptacle extends outwardly from the rear wall.

- 20 6. The rail clip as defined in claim 5, wherein the rear wall is concave in shape and projects partially into the rail receiving receptacle.

7. A rail clip as defined in claim 5, in which the rail receiving receptacle has an upper wall, a lower wall and two side walls; and the side walls have an interior face, an exterior face and front and back edges, and the side walls extend a short distance beyond the rear wall thereby forming a lip between the back edge and the rear wall.

8. A rail clip as defined in claim 7, in which the back edge of the side walls are concave in shape.

9. A rail clip as defined in claim 8, in which the back edge of the side walls is adapted to be complementarily shaped with the bracket.

10. A rail clip as claimed in claim 9, in which the lip further includes a ridge, the ridge running along the back edge of the side wall.

11. A rail clip as claimed in claim 10, in which the bracket defines a first groove and the ridge of the rail connector interlocks with the first groove so as to allow sliding engagement between the bracket and rail connector; the ridge and first groove comprising the first mechanism to secure the bracket and rail connector together.

12. The rail clip as defined in claim 1, wherein the bracket has a rear surface and the rear surface is substantially flat and is adapted to abut a substantially flat surface on the post.